

F-8- 157
Small Beginnings
12440 Green Valley Road (MD 75)
Union Bridge
Private

c. 1774, c. 1870

Small Beginnings is a two-story stone house, three bays wide, facing north towards Sam's Creek on the west side of MD 75, Green Valley Road, south of Union Bridge. A flush chimney stands at either end of the roof of the main block. The central bay holds the entrance, flanked by 9/6 sash windows. Second-floor windows hold 6/6 sash. A shed-roofed porch on simple posts shelters the entrance bay. The house is two bays wide, with windows on the first floor of the east facade, a window in the north bay of the second floor, and two small square windows in the attic gable. A shed-roofed porch covers the first story of the east facade. On the west gable end is a shorter two-story stone addition, two bays wide. The entrance in the east bay of the wing is covered by a one-story shed-roofed frame addition. A 1/1 sash window appears above this vestibule. An asymmetrically placed 2/2 sash window stands west of the vestibule, in the approximate center of the wing. The west gable end of the wing is dominated by an exterior stone chimney, brick above the roofline, with a small apparent two-light window in the first floor of the chimney. Windows appear on both stories of the north bay of this facade. On the interior, corner chimneys have been closed over for modern heating flues, but random-width floorboards remain in place.

Small Beginnings is an 18th-century farm complex with several dependencies that have survived in excellent condition since about 1774. The two-story rubble fieldstone main house has two single-stacked fieldstone end

chimneys. Several of the windows have flat arches, and the first-story front windows have 9/6 panes. A stone addition, built in about 1870, included a large outside stone chimney with a brick top. Outbuildings include a two-story stone-stuccoed springhouse that covers a never-failing spring. There is a large fieldstone and wood bank barn and the remains of a fieldstone blacksmith shop. In 1863 the Second and Fifth Army Corps of the Army of the Potomac camped overnight on this farm before marching to Gettysburg.

Williams, T.J.C. and Folger McKinsey

1967 History of Frederick County, Maryland. Baltimore: Regional Publishing Company, vol. 2, pp. 1193-1194.

REUBEN SAYLOR, who is one of the well-known and representative citizens of Frederick County, resides on a farm on which his father located over half a century ago in Johnsville District. This fine estate consists of 96 acres, and is situated three-quarters of a mile from Union Bridge on the Liberty and Pipe Creek turnpike. Mr. Saylor was born on what is now the Wolfe farm, adjoining his home on the south, March 30, 1851. His parents were Reuben and Hannah (Smith) Saylor).

Jacob Saylor, the grandfather of Reuben Saylor, whose name heads this review, was a well-known farmer of Beaver Dam. He was a Dunkard preacher of wide repute. He was a most charitable and kind hearted man, and his house was a stopping place for all that came that way. He died on his farm at Beaver Dam about 1863 at an advanced age. Mr. Saylor was married to a Miss Garber. They were the parents of the following children: Reuben; Jacob, still living at Dayton, O.; Henry; William B., residing in Baltimore; Betsy; Mary; Katie; and Becky.

Reuben Saylor, son of Jacob and Hannah (Garber) Saylor, was born on the farm now owned by D.J. Gernand, on Beaver Dam, in Johnsville District, Frederick County, about 1819. He was reared on this farm and had but meager educational advantages. Withal, however, he became a very successful business man and was possessed of more than usual intelligence. After his marriage in 1839, he lived at Johnsville for eight years. At the end of that time he removed to the farm of Ephraim Haines, near Union Bridge, the property now owned and occupied by Daniel Wolfe's daughters. Here he toiled with unflagging industry for ten years

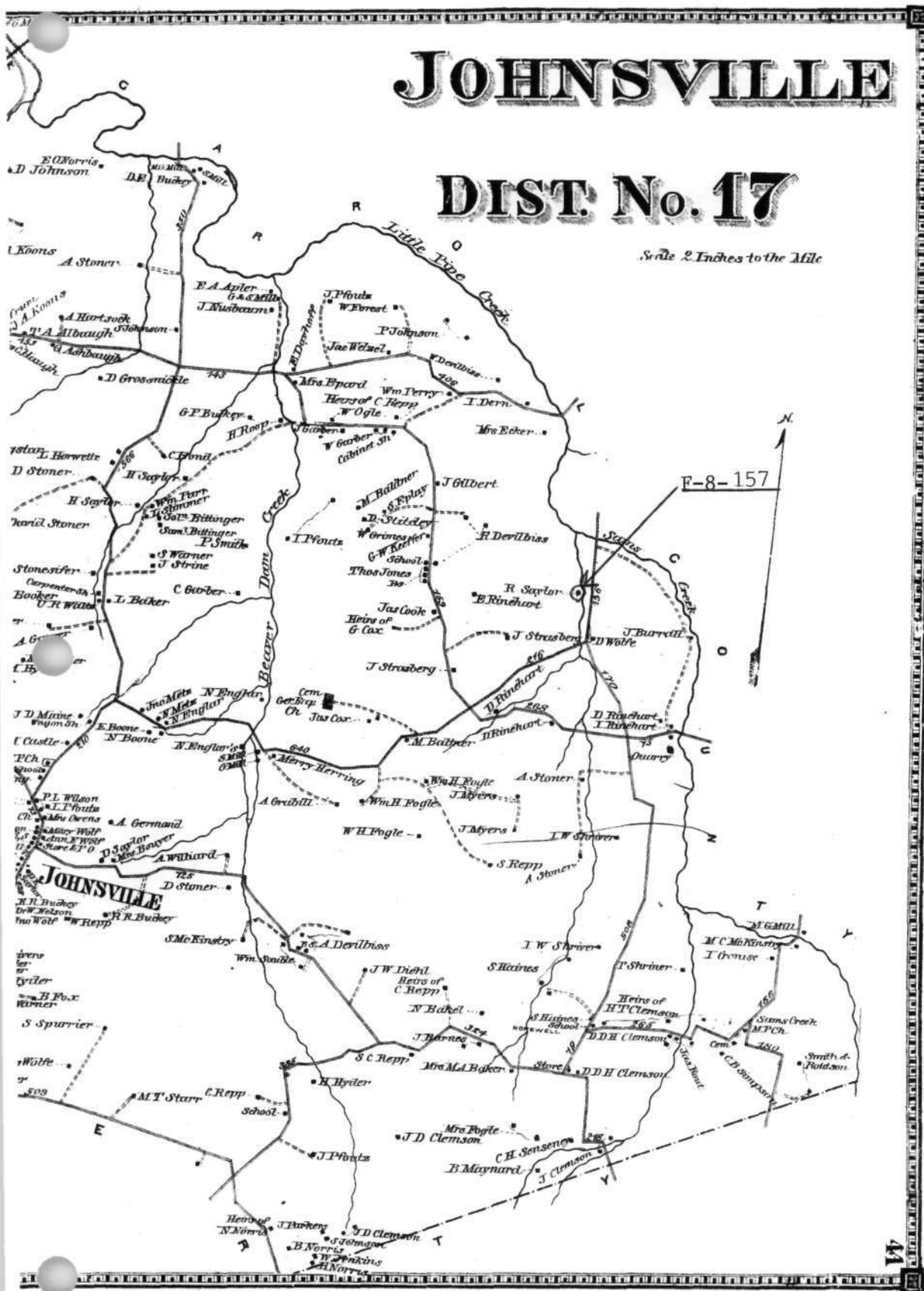
and then purchased the home place, now in the possession of his son Reuben. On this he passed nine years more of industry and economy, when Mr. Saylor's continued ill health constrained him to retire from active business. In 1868, the year in which the Western Maryland Railroad extended its line west of this point, he removed to Union Bridge. In 1873 the town was incorporated and Mr. Saylor was appointed its first mayor. It was during his term of office that all the streets of Union Bridge were named and located. He thus became identified with the interests of the growing town, and during the twenty years that he lived there was an active citizen in all that pertained to the prosperity of the place. He at one time also held the position of school commissioner of Carroll County. He was a Democrat. Mr. Saylor died in Union Bridge in 1888, and was buried at Beaver Dam German Baptist Church. He was not a member of any religious body. Mr. Saylor was married in 1839 to Hannah Smith, daughter of Samuel Smith. She died about 1899 and is laid to rest beside her husband. She was a Lutheran in her religious views. They were the parents of five children: Samuel Jacob, living at Atlanta, Ga.; John, of Dayton O.; Daniel I., of Baltimore; Reuben; and Walter, of Fernandina, Fla.

Reuben Saylor, son of Reuben and Hannah (Smith) Saylor, was seven or eight years old when his father bought the homestead where he now lives. He was sent to Mountain View public school until he was twenty years old. His teachers were William Cox, Becky Rinehart, Daniel Wolfe, Frank J. Wright. He was raised to agricultural pursuits. After his father had relinquished farming one of his brothers, Samuel J., managed the home farm or three years, after which another brother, Daniel I., cultivated it for a similar period. About this time, Mr. Saylor attained his majority and assumed charge of the place, which he has since cultivated. This is a very valuable estate. It now contains 96 acres, and recently 32 acres were sold to the Tide Water Portland Cement Company, which has a branch at Union Bridge. This is considered one of the finest tracts in that section. John A. Shoe had owned it before Reuben Saylor, Sr., and before it had been in the possession of Daniel Haines. William Wright, the grandfather of Mrs. Reuben Saylor, Jr., was the proprietor of the estate at one time and is buried there, but his grave cannot be located. Mr. Saylor is one of the successful agriculturalists of his district and is highly respected.

The Isaac Bond Map of Frederick County of 1858 identifies the property as owned by "J. Shugh" who may be "John A. Shoe" above. The CO.

Titus & Co. Atlas of 1873 identifies "R. Saylor" as the owner.

CO. Titus & Co. Atlas of Frederick County, Maryland, 1873



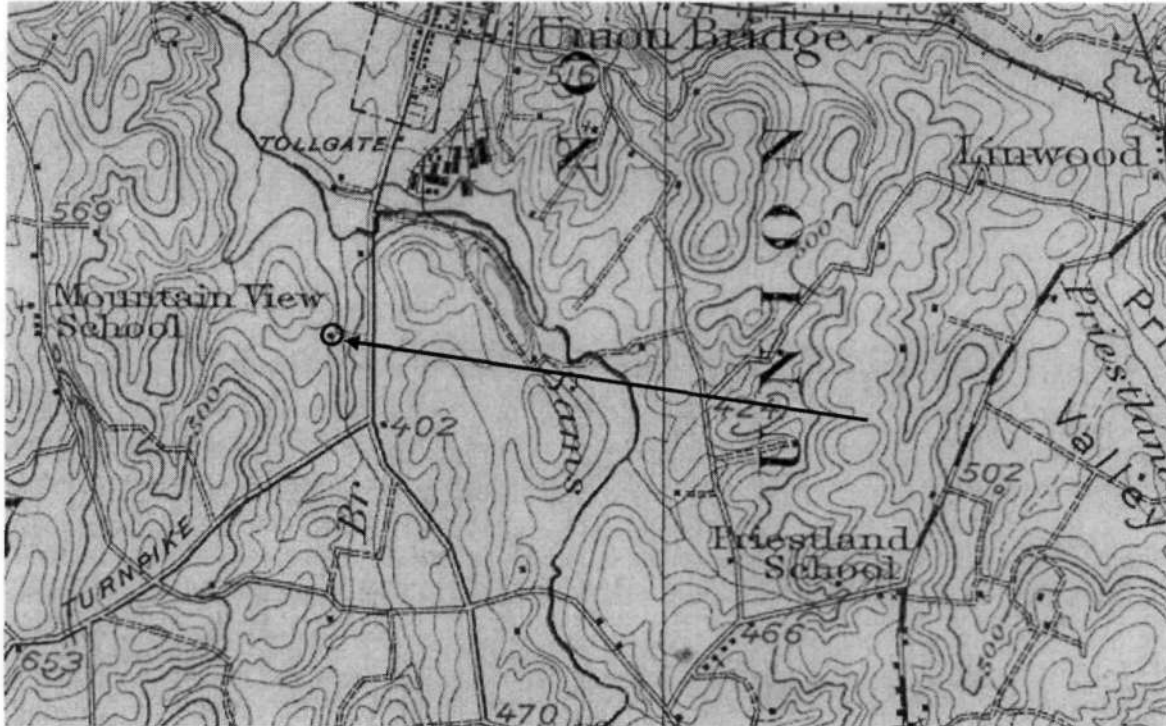
39°35' N

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Small Beginnings

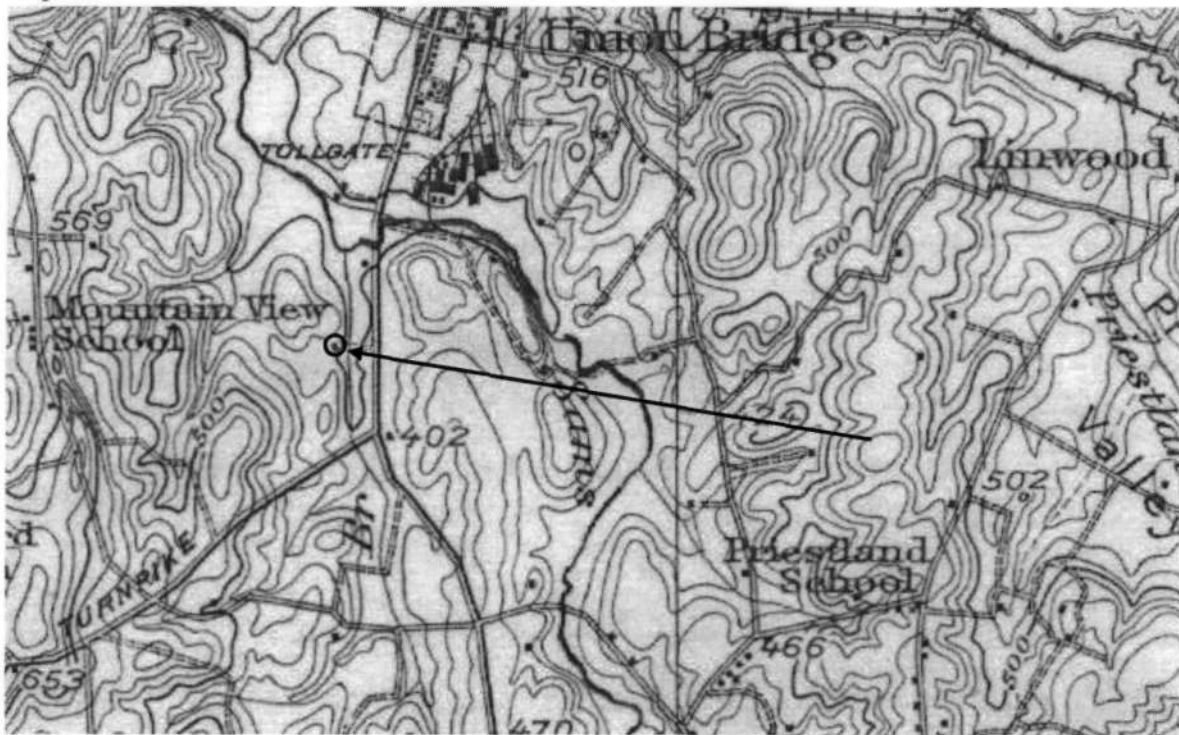
Isaacs Bp. nd. Map of Frederick
County, Maryland, 1858



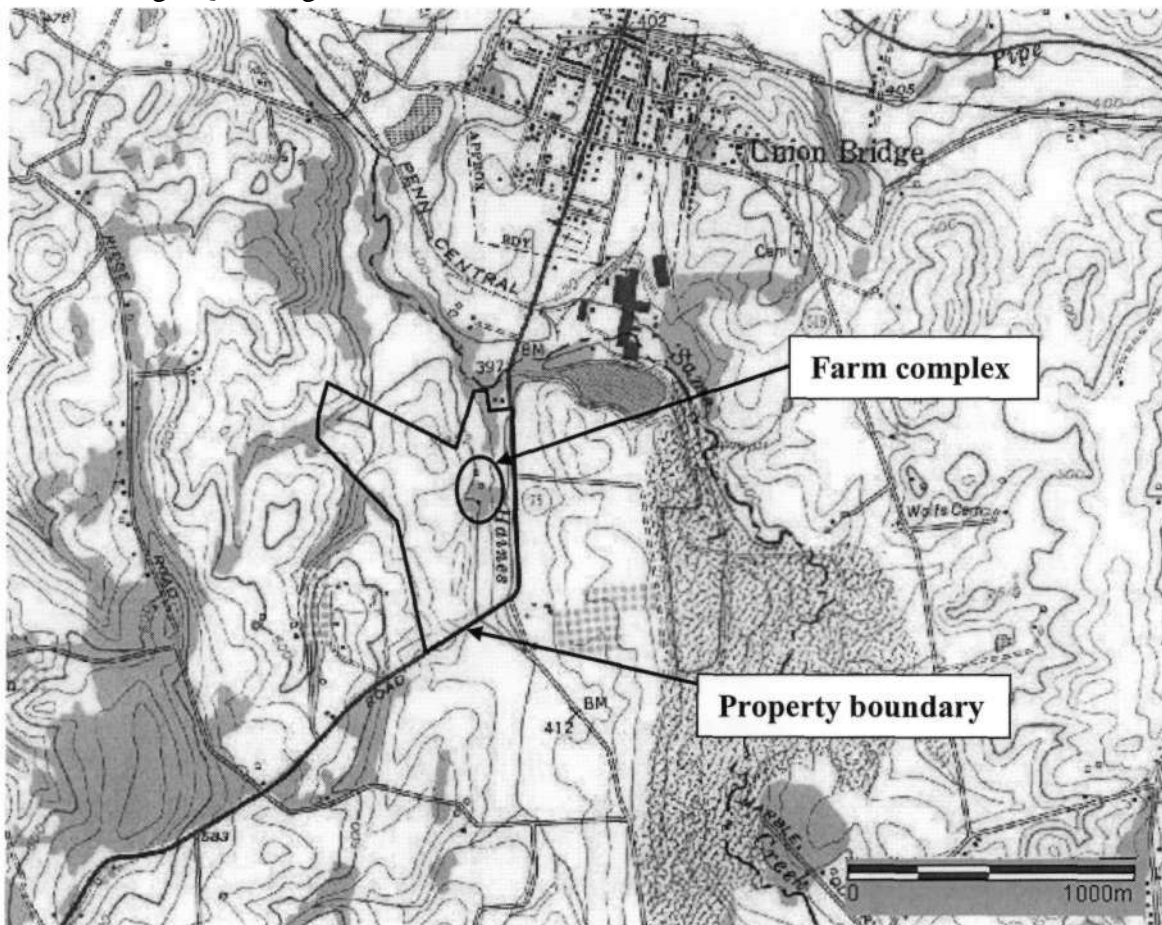
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Small Beginnings
12440 Green Valley Road (MD 75), Union Bridge
Taneytown 15' quad, 1911



Reprinted 1944



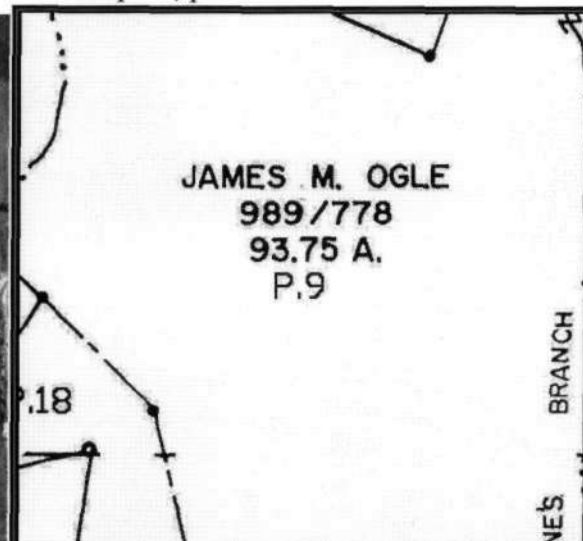
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Small Beginnings
12440 Green Valley Road (MD 75), Union Bridge
Union Bridge Quadrangle



1998 Aerial Photo



Tax Map 36, p. 9



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Small Beginnings
12440 Green Valley Road (MD 75)
Union Bridge
Jennifer K. Cosham
20 April 2006
North facade





DREBB BURN'S - Small Beginning
Union Br.,

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Small Beginnings
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Small Beginnings
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DR



HAZEL VALLEY BARN
BUILT 1783

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DR



HAZEL VALLEY
BLACKSMITH SHOP

Small Beginnings
Union Bridge
Can. Cty.

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DR